

What is claimed is:

1. An integrated mobile device that provides local functionality and communication functionality, comprising:

a power supply;

a computing unit, coupled to the power supply;

a radio communication unit; and

a switch, coupled to power supply and to the computing unit, to selectively couple

the radio communication unit to the power supply, such that the switch

provides first and second modes of operation, wherein the first mode of

operation enables the computing unit and the radio communication unit, and

the second mode of operation disables the radio communication unit and

enables the computing unit.

2. The device of claim 1, wherein the radio communication device provides cellular communication between the wireless communication device and an external entity.

3. The wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein the computing unit comprises:

a data storage area to store information; and

a processor, coupled to the data storage area, to retrieve the information.

4. The wireless communication device of claim 3, wherein the information includes random access information.

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1 5. The wireless communication device of claim 3, wherein information includes  
2 read-only information.

1 6. The wireless communication device of claim 3, wherein the information includes  
2 multimedia information.

1 7. The wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein the computing device,  
2 when the radio communication unit is enabled, provides data communication  
3 functionality between the device and an external entity.

1 8. The wireless communication device of claim 8, wherein the external entity  
2 comprises an adaptive array base station.

1 9. A method for selectively disabling the wireless communication functionality of an  
2 integrated portable computing-communication device, the method comprising:  
3 providing a first mode of operation in which both wireless communication  
4 functionality and local functionality of the device are enabled;  
5 providing a second mode of operation in which the communication functionality  
6 is disabled and the local functionality is enabled; and  
7 selectively switching between the first and second modes of operation.

1 10. The method of claim 9, further comprising providing a third mode of operation in  
2 which neither the wireless communication functionality nor the local functionality of the  
3 device is enabled.

1     13.     The method of claim 9, wherein selectively switching between the first and  
2     second modes of operation comprises disabling at least a portion of a radio  
3     communication unit that provides the communication functionality in the second mode of  
4     operation.

1     14.     The method of claim 9, wherein the first mode of operation provides transfer of  
2     data between the device and an external entity.

1     15.     The method of claim 14, wherein the external entity includes a base station  
2     coupled to a data communication network.

1     16.     The method of claim 15, wherein the external entity further includes a voice  
2     communication network.

1     17.     The method of claim 15, wherein the data communication network includes the  
2     Internet.

1 18. A multifunction portable apparatus that provides wireless communication and  
 2 local functionality, the apparatus comprising:  
 3 a first means for providing local functionality;  
 4 a second means for providing communication functionality; and  
 5 a selection means for selecting between a first mode of operation, wherein both  
 6 the local functionality and the communication functionality are provided, and  
 7 a second mode of operation, where the local functionality is provided and the  
 8 communication functionality is disabled.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the selection means comprises a switching  
 2 means to switch between the first and second modes of operation.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the switching means is coupled to a power  
 2 supply means, the switching means to disable the supply of power from the power supply  
 3 means to at least a portion of the second means in the second mode of operation.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein an external entity triggers the selection means  
 2 to select between the first and second modes of operation.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the external entity comprises a transmitter to  
 2 transmit a signal that triggers the selection means to select between the first and second  
 3 modes of operation.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 18, further comprising an indication means for indicating  
 2 whether the apparatus is operating in the first or the second mode of operation.